



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2050

federal office; online signature collection

Prime Sponsor: Representative Stevens, LD 14

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**X** Committee on Elections

Caucus and COW

House Engrossed

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## **OVERVIEW**

HB 2050 stipulates that the Secretary of State (SOS) must provide a system for online nomination petition signatures beginning January 1, 2017.

## **PROVISIONS**

1. Requires the SOS to provide a system through a secure internet portal for qualified electors to sign a nomination petition for candidates for the office of the U.S. Senator or Representative in Congress.
2. Requires the system to:
  - a. allow only eligible qualified electors to sign the petition;
  - b. provide a method to verify the electors identity; and
  - c. provide for the SOS to transmit those filings to the officer in charge of elections for the appropriate office.
3. Allows candidates to collect up to the full number of required petition signatures online.
4. Becomes effective January 1, 2017.

## **CURRENT LAW**

*Nomination petition* is defined as the form or forms used for obtaining the required number of signatures of qualified electors, circulated by or on behalf of the person wishing to become a candidate for a political office ([A.R.S. § 16-314](#)). The SOS is required to provide a system for qualified electors to sign a nomination petition for statewide and legislative candidates by way of a secure internet portal. The system must: 1) allow only those qualified electors who are eligible to sign the nomination petition; and 2) provide a method for the qualified elector's identity to be properly verified. Statewide and legislative candidates may choose to collect up to an amount equal to ½ of the number of required signatures by use of the online signature collection system ([A.R.S. § 16-316](#)). Each signer can sign only one nomination petition for the same office unless more than one candidate is to be elected to such office ([A.R.S. § 16-321](#)).